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Year 3  
Spring 2018  
Queen's University

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- Activity log

## January

It was all about getting use to new environment and meet new friends. There was not much to do academically, so I was hanging around Kingston and took a short trip to Montreal.



## February

It comprised with more meetings and presentations and of course the midterm. I think it is still manageable, so no worries.



## March

There were St Patty's Day which student would all dress in green, party and hang out. The street is packed. It is fun. My roommates made me green pancakes and desserts.

April

Work Hard and play hard. It began with hectic study for the Finals and ended with excitement of post trip!



## General Exchange Information

- Visa Procedure

Visa is not required for Hong Kong permanent residents to stay in Canada for less than six months. However, eTA is required before entering Canada. It is easy to apply and the approval is fast.

- Orientation Activities

There were two orientations organized by the Smith School of Business and by the Queen's University International Centre. It gathered incoming students for lunch, campus tour and talks. It is a great opportunity to meet other incoming exchanging students.

- International Services and Actives

The Queen's University International Centre sells tickets at a discount price and holds many activities to overseas students, such as English Speaking Day, Free lunch and Movie night. Also, the Exchange and Transfer Committee (ETC) organizes fun activities such as Maple Syrup Tour and Semi Formal Dinner. They updates on Facebook.

- Accommodations

International student can enroll in the system for dorm allocation. Depending on the dorm allocated, it is about 20 minutes walking distance from dorm to the business academic building (Goodes Hall) of Queen's. Besides, there are plenty options of houses and apartments around campus and downtown Kingston. There is a Facebook page which serves the hosts and renter who for a semester stay. Pictures, price and other details of rooms are uploaded and stated. I took 3 months in advance browsing the page and rented a house which shared with other two local Canadians near campus. I highly recommend to rent a place near campus, especially in Winter. It could be tough to walk even for a few minutes under -30 degrees.



- Courses Registration

The course registration system of Queen's is SOLUS. It has similar interface as SIS so it is easy to use for UST students. Most of the accounting courses are easy to get registered except some courses with special requirement. An advance accounting course may require students to prove that they have prerequisite knowledge of the material. By requesting an official transcript from HKUST and sending an email to the course registration office, student can apply for permission. The permission also depends on quotas, some of the courses' quotas are granted prior to Queen's local students.

- Teaching & Assessment Methods

Course	Equivalent Course	Assessment
COMM 313	ACCT 3020	Case Final Case Quizzes Final Exam Bio-rationale
COMM 317	ACCT 4510	Participation and in-class group Assignments Midterm Exam Final Exam
COMM 414	ACCT3210	Group presentations in class Final presentation Final Exam Individual

		participation
COMM 401	MGMT4201	In class discussion In class discussion Capstone (Online Case Competition) Group Presentation Final Exam Participation
COMM	Free elective	Essay Final Exam

- Sports & Recreation Facilities

Most of the sports and recreation facilities are in ARC, a building on campus which is about 5 minutes walking distance from Goodes Hall. It is a 5 storey building consists of gym room, yoga room, swimming pool, basketball court and so on. The gym room operates from 6am to 1am except Sunday. Students can put their personal belongings in lockers provided. Apart from the above, exchange students can borrow skating shoes free from QUIC. However, some sizes are often out of supply. There are a public skating area in front of Kingston City Hall and a indoor skating rink in downtown Roger Centre. Business exchange student can watch hockey game at a discount price at Roger Centre. There were also countdown activities during the New Year Eve including photo booth, magic show and so on.



- Finance & Banking (including currency / expenses)

I opened a saving account at CIBC in Hong Kong and deposit a certain amount of money in it beforehand. It provides a debit card which is usable for online payment in Canada and also enable a few times of withdrawal from ATM or bank branches per month. It charged me 3CAD per month. Besides, there are only one or two currency exchange stores in downtown Kingston. Therefore, I recommend exchanging for US dollars in Toronto if you are going to the States.

- Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

Similar to UST, it has a wide variety of societies. You may check out their booth, poster and Facebook page.

- Health & Safety

There is a hospital downtown. Most of the medical expenses are covered by UHIP which you need to subscribe to compulsorily.

- Food

There are plenty options of cuisines in downtown Kingston (Princesses Street). The Korean restaurant near Lululemon is recommended. On Campus options include Tim Hortons, Pizza Pizza, etc. If you want to cook, there are grocery stores on campus with limited options. The nearest supermarket is Metro which is 10 to 15min walking distance from Goodes Hall. By presenting Queen's student ID card, you can enjoy 30% off discount on Thursday. Food Basic and Walmart are more affordable. It takes 10mintues and 30mintues to get there by bus respectively.

- Transportation

Queen's student can take all buses including the express for free by showing your student ID card to the bus drivers. You can request private drivers or taxi by Uber or Amey's.

- Climate

Winter in Kingston could be freaking cold. Most of the houses and buses are equipped with heaters. I recommend you to equip essential clothes and boots before you go to Canada if you are going on exchange in spring semester. It could be slippery when the snow melts. January and February are the coldest months in Canada.

- Communication

Courses in Queen's are conducted in English. Most people in Montreal communicate in French.

- Cautionary measures

If you are going to the States, it will be safe and more convenient to get a visa in Hong Kong before you go to Canada.

- Items to bring

Laptop, chargers, adaptors, power bank

Credit card

Calculators

Formal wear

Medical kit

Clothing for winter